

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
Edward Garvey  
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Paul Bunyon Rural Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Koochiching County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: February 22, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-01-169**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On April 13, 1982, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Koochiching County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On November 20, 1984, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE Telephone Company (formerly known as Continental and Contel) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Koochiching County.

On January 15, 1985, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West Communications (formerly known as Northwestern Bell) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Koochiching County.

On May 26, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs Arvig Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service in Koochiching County.

On March 16, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Paul Bunyan Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Koochiching County.

On December 30, 1998, the Commission approved the costs IES, LLC incurred for placing Automatic Number Identification (ANI) and Automatic Location Identification (ALI) services in the 911 Emergency Services system in Koochiching County.

On March 23, 1999, the Commission approved the costs Minnesota Independent Interexchange Corporation incurred for the provision of ANI and ALI support.

On September 21, 1999, the Commission approved the costs Hutchinson Telephone Company incurred for installing a portion of ALI service in the 911 Emergency Services system in

Koochicking County.

On September 5, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Blackduck Telephone Company incurred for providing basic 911 Service to the Ash River Exchange formerly owned by Arvig Telephone Company.

On September 11, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services, LLC incurred for incoming trunk ports, selective routing equipment, and ALI databases in the Koochicking County 911 Emergency Services system.

### **CURRENT FILING**

On October, 1997, Koochicking County contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company (the Company) to add router based ANI and ALI service to their 911 Emergency Services system.

On October 27, 1997, the Company installed two interexchange circuits, each, from the Big Falls, Northome, International Falls, Littlefork, Ericksburg, Ranier, Loman, and Kabetogama Exchanges to the Turtle River Selective Router. The Company also installed two interexchange circuits, each, from the International Falls, Kabetogama, Loman, Ranier, Ericksburg, Littlefork, and Big Falls Exchanges to the Deer River Router. The Company also installed three interexchange circuits, each, for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)s between the Turtle River and Deer River Routers and from the Deer River Router to the International Falls Exchange. The Company also installed 613 access lines for ALI at their Northome Exchange. The Company made these installations to provide router service for enhanced ANI service for all of the exchanges in Koochicking County and provide ALI service to their Northome Exchange.

On January 19, 2001, the Company certified actual costs incurred in providing interexchange circuits between the Turtle River and Deer River Selective Routers and the other exchanges listed for expanded ANI and ALI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual costs incurred in providing router based ALI Services. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and

accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Koochiching County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Koochiching County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

**ORDER**

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Koochiching County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-01-169.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER  
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER  
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING  
658 CEDAR STREET  
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MARY KAY FRISCH  
PRODUCT ANALYST  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
ROOM 510  
658 CEDAR STREET  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, \_\_\_\_\_

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public